



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

December 1, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "M. Flanagan".

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for Grant Programs for School Climate Transformation

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) received funding to support programming for School Climate Transformation to implement evidence-based, multi-tiered behavioral frameworks for improving school climate and behavioral outcomes and learning conditions for all students from the United States Department of Education (USED), Office of Safe and Healthy Students.

The funding allows MDE to work with USED, local education agencies, and with the Departments of Community Health and Human Services to fund projects focused on implementing Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) through the local development of coordination, training, coaching, and evaluation. These projects require a coordinated approach, driven by state-level leadership, and facilitated through community partnerships.

Grants established using these funds will allow full participation of school and agency partners and the necessary support to carry out all objectives under MDE's grant award with USED.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Criteria for Grant Programs for School Climate Transformation, as attached to the Superintendent's Memorandum dated December 1, 2014.

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MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Criteria for Grant Programs for School Climate Transformation

The State Board of Education (SBE) has adopted as its mission, "All students graduate ready for careers, college, and community."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal.

SBE MISSION, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

School Climate Transformation Grants distributed under the grant award notification from the United States Department of Education (USED), Office of Safe and Healthy Students, support the SBE's mission by building the capacity of Michigan intermediate and local school districts to develop and implement multi-tiered behavioral frameworks for improving school climate and behavioral outcomes and learning conditions for all students. These programs are focused on implementing Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) through state and local coordination, training, coaching, and evaluation. Program activities are expected to reduce chronic absenteeism and dropouts while improving school connectedness and academic achievement.

Grants will also support the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) Priority 1 focus on closing achievement gaps by implementing capacity-building strategies to reduce disparities in both health outcomes and academic achievement, and providing additional support for populations disproportionately affected.

Grants distributed under these programs also support the following SBE policies:

Model Code of Student Conduct – 8/2014

Policy on Reducing Student Suspension and Expulsions – 5/2014

Policies on Bullying – 11/2010

Model Anti-Bullying Policy – 11/2010

Integrating Mental Health in Schools Policy – 2/2010

Comprehensive School Health Education – 6/2004

Coordinated School Health Programs to Support Academic Achievement – 9/2003

Statewide Safe School Choice Policy – 4/2003

Creating Effective Learning Environments – 12/2000

Safe Schools – 5/2000

PURPOSE / BACKGROUND OF GRANT

Type of Grant Program:

- ☒ New ☐ Continuing
☒ Competitive ☐ Formula ☐ Legislatively Designated

The Michigan Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs unit was among one of seven states to be awarded the competitive School Climate Transformation grant from USED. The program received \$3,282,255 for five years to build capacity of state and local education agencies to develop and implement multi-tiered behavioral frameworks for improving school climate and behavioral outcomes and learning conditions for all students. These programs are focused on implementing PBIS through state and local coordination, training, coaching, and evaluation.

Multiple offices within MDE, including Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs, Office of Special Education, and Office of Education Improvement and Innovation, will partner and co-lead this grant award. Representatives from the team will convene with the Departments of Community Health and Human Services and other stakeholders from state and local levels under a State Management Team. This State Management Team will inform and coordinate related school health and safety programs.

The project will provide opportunities to support up to 90 districts in developing local capacity for implementation of PBIS with fidelity that can be scaled-up within and across districts. State-level personnel will provide training, coaching, and technical assistance to district teams. The district teams will be guided through stages of implementation to ensure strategic planning and robust capacity development necessary to support successful school application of PBIS.

A number of grants will be distributed by the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs unit to support this five-year grant award.

CRITERIA

Date criteria were last approved: n/a

Source of Criteria:

- ☐ A. Federal Law, Rules or Regulation ☒ C. Proposed by Staff
☐ B. State Law or Rules ☐ D. Defined in MDE's Approved Grant Application to the Funder

The main criteria upon which a sub-grantee organization will be selected are the following:

- Must be a non-governmental organization, state/local health department, school or district entity, and/or institutes of higher education.

- Must assign staff and/or consultants to support grant-related efforts.
- Have the appropriate knowledge, expertise, and/or skills.
- Is able to reach at-risk student populations directly or through relevant parent populations or primary health care systems.
- Provides programming that supports one or more of the above listed SBE policies.
- Is able to complete the project in the required timeline.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND TARGET POPULATION SERVED

Initial grants will be awarded to organizations designated in MDE's application to USED. Additional awards may be made as needed that support program objectives to eligible applicants that are non-governmental organizations, state/local health departments, school or district entities, or institutes of higher education.

Target populations are the students within Michigan districts, particularly those in priority status.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

The amount of available USED funding for grant awards varies each year and is estimated to range from \$500,000 - \$600,000 per year for five years.

STATUTE

School Climate Transformation grant awards are authorized under PL 107-110 IV-A Safe & Drug-Free Schools & Communities Act of ESEA, as amended.

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT

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